

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A personal watercraft comprising:
 - a water jet pump;
 - an engine for driving the water jet pump; and
 - a mechanically driven supercharger provided independently of the engine and configured to draw air taken in from outside to the engine.

2. The personal watercraft according to Claim 1, further comprising:
 - an air-intake box configured to temporarily store the air to be drawn to the engine, wherein
 - the supercharger is contained within the air-intake box.

3. The personal watercraft according to Claim 1, further comprising:
 - a transmission shaft configured to transmit an output of the engine to the water jet pump, wherein
 - the supercharger is driven in cooperation with rotation of the transmission shaft.

4. The personal watercraft according to Claim 3, wherein the supercharger is placed behind the engine.

5. The personal watercraft according to Claim 1, wherein the engine is placed such that a crankshaft thereof extends along a longitudinal direction of the watercraft, and has an extended shaft which is extended forward from the crankshaft so as to rotate in cooperation with the crankshaft, and the supercharger is placed

forward of the engine and driven in cooperation with rotation of the extended shaft.

6. The personal watercraft according to Claim 3, wherein the supercharger has a rotor shaft for driving a built-in rotor of the supercharger, the rotor shaft is placed to extend substantially in parallel with the transmission shaft, and the rotor shaft and the transmission shaft are connected to each other through pulleys respectively provided on the shafts and a belt installed around the pulleys.

7. The personal watercraft according to Claim 3, wherein the supercharger has a rotor shaft for driving a built-in rotor of the supercharger, the rotor shaft is placed to extend substantially in parallel with the transmission shaft, and the rotor shaft and the transmission shaft are connected to each other through sprockets respectively provided on the shafts and a chain installed around the sprockets.

8. The personal watercraft according to Claim 3, further comprising:

a coupling means configured to couple an output shaft of the engine to a pump shaft of the water jet pump, wherein

the supercharger has a rotor shaft for driving a built-in rotor of the supercharger, the rotor shaft is provided with a driven pulley at an end portion thereof, and a drive pulley is provided integrally on the coupling means, the driven pulley on the rotor shaft being connected to the drive pulley on the coupling means through a belt.

9. The personal watercraft according to Claim 3, further comprising:

a coupling means configured to couple an output shaft of the engine to a pump shaft of the water jet pump, wherein

the supercharger has a rotor shaft for driving a built-in rotor of the supercharger, the rotor shaft is provided with a driven sprocket at an end portion thereof, and a drive sprocket is provided integrally on the coupling means, the driven sprocket on the rotor shaft being connected to the drive sprocket on the coupling means through a chain.

10. The personal watercraft according to Claim 3, further comprising a shaft casing that covers part of the transmission shaft within an engine room of the watercraft, wherein the supercharger is placed on the shaft casing.

11. The personal watercraft according to Claim 1, wherein the engine is a four-cycle engine.